

Message Text

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ACTION INT-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 TRSE-00 L-03 COME-00

AGR-10 EPA-04 CEQ-01 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /080 W

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P 201141Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7838

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 12245

FOR DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, FISH AND WILD LIFE SERVICE.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, TB IO, IN

SUBJECT: U.S. REGULATIONS ON IMPORTATION OF IVORY PRODUCTS

REF: STATE 187836

1. WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED IN A LETTER FROM THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE THAT IVORY PRODUCTS EXPORTED FROM INDIA ARE MADE ALMOST ENTIRELY OF AFRICAN ELEPHANT IVORY WHICH IS IMPORTED BY INDIAN EXPORTERS AGAINST THEIR REPLENISHMENT EXPORT LICENSES. AN EXCEPTION IS REWORKED OLD IVORY ORNAMENTS COLLECTED FROM DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE COUNTRY FOR EXPORT. THE MINISTRY NOTES THAT INDIA HAS RATIFIED THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA.

2. THE MINISTRY REQUESTS THAT THE USG EXEMPT SIGNATORIES TO THE CONVENTION FROM THE CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN PROCEDURE. ALTERNATIVELY

IT REQUESTS THAT THE USG ALLOW THE IMPORT OF NOT ONLY IVORY PRODUCTS MADE FROM AFRICAN ELEPHANTS BUT ALSO PRODUCTS MADE OF ASIAN IVORY IN COUNTRIES WHERE THE TRADE IN RAW IVORY IS REGULATED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES. THEY ALSO ASK PROVISION FOR IMPORTS OF OLD IVORY ORNAMENTS FROM SIGNATORY COUNTRIES.

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3. THE MINISTRY SAYS A SYSTEM OF LICENSING TRADE IN IVORY

AND A SYSTEM FOR REGISTRATION OF EXPORTERS OF IVORY PRODUCTS
ARE LIKELY TO BE INTRODUCED SHORTLY.

4. THE MINISTRY REQUESTS OUR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING THE
RELEASE OF SHIPMENTS WHICH ARE BEING DETAINED BY US CUSTOMS.

5. WE UNDERSTAND THAT USG OFFICIALS ALREADY HAVE RECEIVED
A SIMILAR APPROACH FROM THE INDIAN EMBASSY. WE WOULD
APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED OF ANY ACTION WASHINGTON AGENCIES
PLAN TO TAKE ON THESE REQUESTS. A COPY OF THE MINISTRY'S LETTER
IS BEING AIR-POUCHED TO NEA/INS.SAXBE

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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